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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 9

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria*, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka: draft resolution

1997/... Review of the special procedures system

The Commission on Human Rights,

Guided by the purposes and principles and the relevant articles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Reiterating the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action which states that all human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated, and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

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* In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Noting that the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has highlighted the imbalance in the special rapporteur system by referring to the fact that although there are a large number of thematic and related mechanisms dealing with different aspects of civil and political rights, there is none dealing solely with the economic, social and cultural rights recognized in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, despite the recognized interdependence, indivisibility and interrelationship of the two sets of rights,

1. Decides to undertake a comprehensive review of the thematic and related mechanisms and the special rapporteur system at its fifty-fourth session;

2. Also decides to set up an open-ended working group and requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the inter-sessional working group containing specific proposals for rationalization;

3. Further decides to include in its agenda for the fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Review of the special procedures system";

4. Recommends the following draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption:

"The Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/... of ... 1997, approves the Commission's decision to set up an inter-sessional open-ended working group of the Commission on the review of the special procedures system for a period of one year."